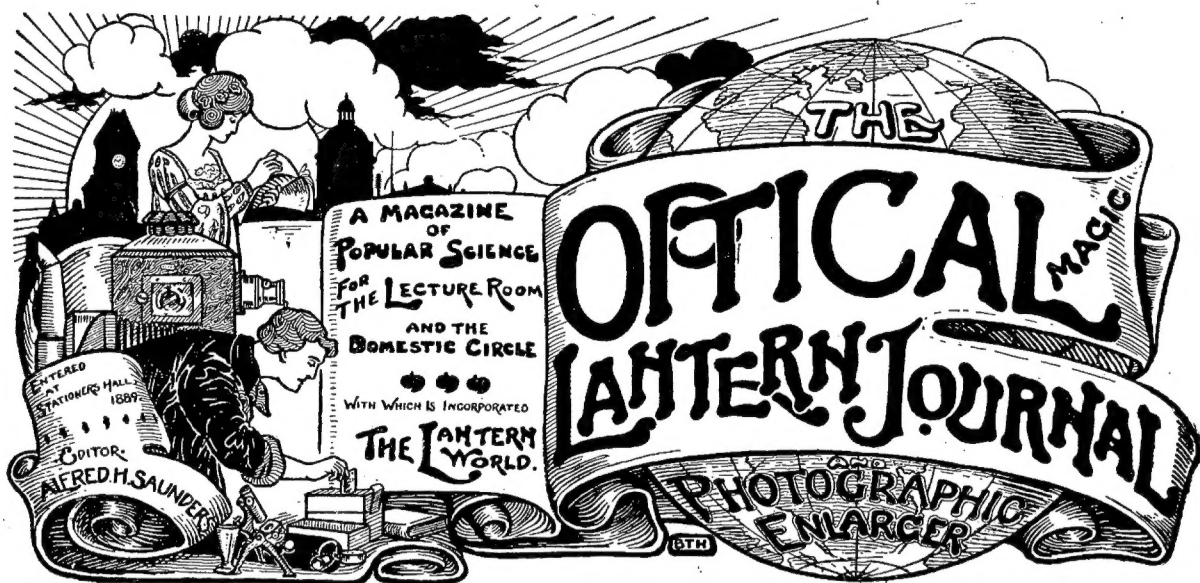




Vol. 13.—No. 155.

FEBRUARY, 1903.

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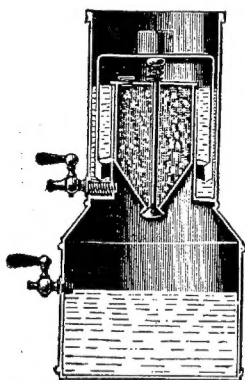
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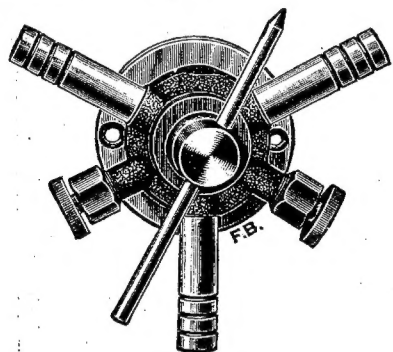


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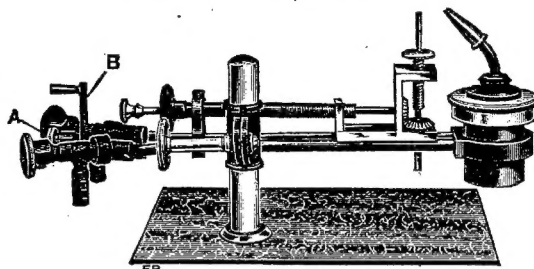
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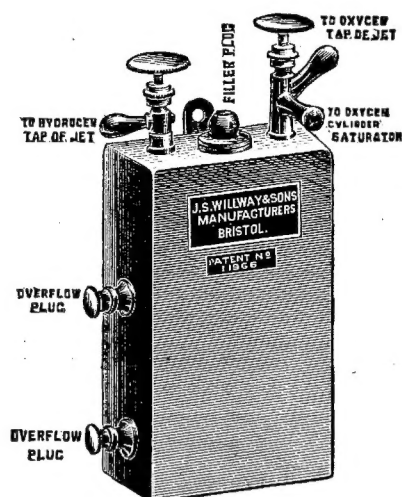


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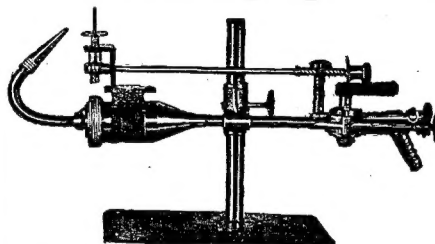
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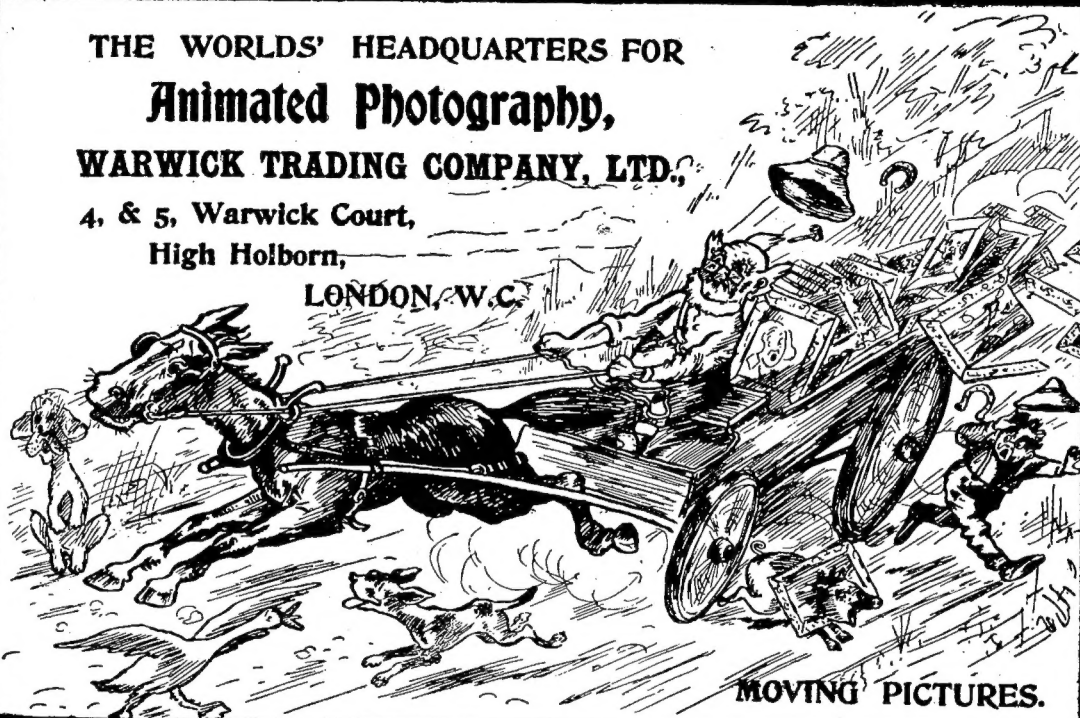
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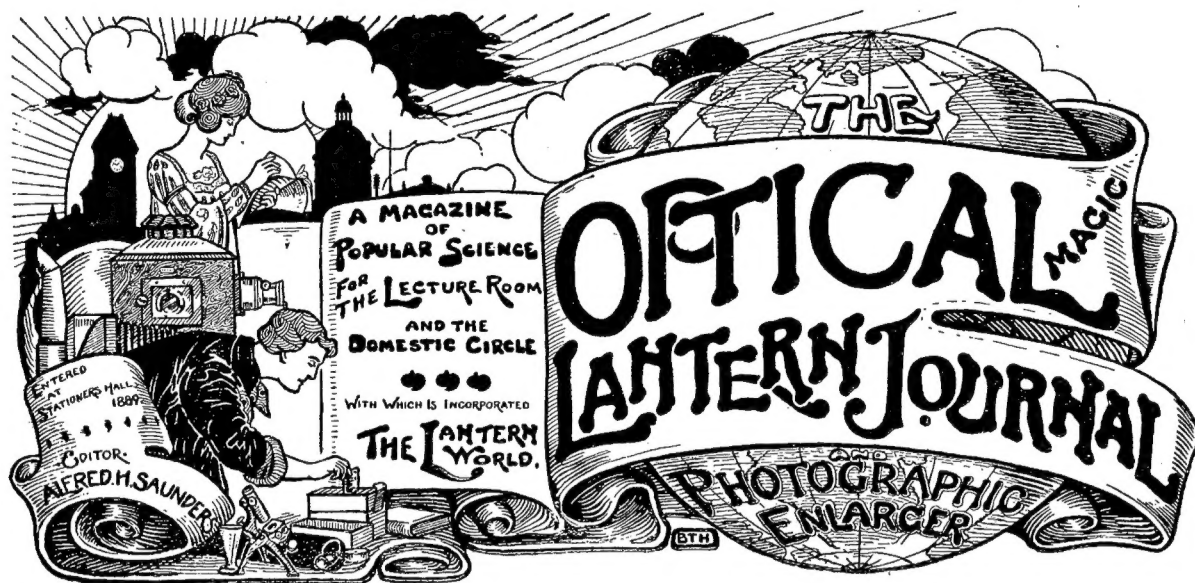
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FEBRUARY, 1903.

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Small Advertisements must reach the office not later than the first post on the 20th of the month. All cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Magic Lantern Journal Company, Limited.

Notice of Removal.

The Registered Office of the **Magic Lantern Journal Company, Ltd.**, is removed from 9A, Carthusian Street, London, E.C., to **Prince's Chambers, 6, Corporation Street, Birmingham.** And the **Optical Magic Lantern Journal** will be published from the same address, **Monthly**, under the Editorship of **ALFRED H. SAUNDERS**, to whom all communications relating to the business of the Company and the Journal should be addressed.

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Mere Mention.

Liverpool Geological Society.—“Small Glaciers near the summit of the Furka Pass” was the title of a lecture at the Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, on Tuesday, January 13th, by Mr. E. Dickson, F.G.S. A detailed description was given of the three glaciers most easily visited from the highest part of the Furka Pass, these being (1) the Gratschlucht, below the Muttenthaler, (2) the Siedeln Glacier, (3) the Tiefen Glacier, the two latter lying below the Galenstock, the highest peak in the district. The lecture was illustrated by lantern slides, the production of the lecturer with a Kodak.

A Tour through the Houses of Parliament.—At the Southern Division Conservative Club, Nottingham, on January 14th, Edmund J. Moyle lectured on the above subject. The lecture was of a particularly interesting character, and was illustrated by a number of portraits, caricatures, and limelight views. Views were shown of the opening of Parliament by King Edward. The description of the House of Commons was prefaced by a visit to the Speaker's official residence, followed by an excursion through the Clock Tower, illustrations being shown of the prisons and the interior of the mammoth clock.

Newcastle Photographic Association.—At the Y.M.C.A. Buildings, January 13th, the fifth general meeting of the session was held under the presidency of Mr. W. E. Cowen. After the transaction of formal business, Mr. John Watson delivered a lecture entitled “Hints on Acetylene gas.” The speaker described the advantages in regard to photography, and explained that it was the best light they could use for optical lanterns. It was also very useful in photographic studio for the purpose of increasing the light for ordinary photography.

The Rev. S. Gordon Ponsonby, M.A., lectured on “Rome: Ancient and Modern,” at the Devonport Free Public Library, on Monday, January 12th. The chair was occupied by Mr. Alderman Thomas Bowen, vice-chairman of the Library Committee. The lecture proved most interesting and instructive. The story of the Coliseum, as told by the lecturer, describing the formation and usages of that historic pile, was exceedingly interesting, as was also that portion of the lecture dealing with the Catacombs. The illustration of the lecture, by which over seventy beautifully-coloured lime-light views were shown,

was quite a feature, and left nothing to be desired. The slides were specially procured by the librarian.

Duxhurst Farm Colony.—Palmer Hall, Reading, was crowded on Monday, January 12th, when an interesting lecture was given by Miss Gosham, of Tonbridge, illustrated by a capital series of lantern views. Miss Gosham prefaced her lecture with some remarks upon the solemnity and grandeur of the Coronation service held last year, and the great responsibilities which rested upon the King. Humorous and pathetic illustrations of the slum life of London, followed by views of the home for rescued children at “The Nest,” Duxhurst Colony. At the close a collection was taken up in aid of the Farm Colony at Duxhurst.

Nottingham Mechanics' Institution's winter session was inaugurated on January 12th, when Mr. H. A. Kennedy presented an interesting account of “Fighting the Red Indians” and other Canadian adventures. Mr. Kennedy observed that Canada was not thought much of now as a land of adventure, and referred to its magnificent natural resources, the fertility of its soil, its great mineral wealth, and the mistaken impressions formed about its climate. The lecturer told some entertaining stories about the French discoverers and exploration of Canada, making allusion to the hunting and gold-seeking adventures in British Columbia, and the sovereignty of the Hudson's Bay Company; of the Indian rising, and giving some instructive and humorous reminiscences of his own adventures as a war correspondent. The lecture was illustrated by a number of excellent lantern slides.

“Liverpool, Past and Present.”—An interesting lecture was delivered on January 12th, in the Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, under the auspices of the Literary and Philosophical Society, by Dr. J. Birkbeck Nevins. The lecture was illustrated by numerous lantern slides showing the growth and progress of Liverpool as a seaport from the period when it consisted of a few tenements in Church Street, Lime Street, &c., and when the operation of harvesting was being carried on in close proximity to the Cathedral Church.

The Rev. W. H. Dallinger delivered a lecture, illustrated by lantern pictures, on some of the chief points in the habits of Spiders, at the London Institution, on January 12th. All spiders, the lecturer said, spin, but all do not produce

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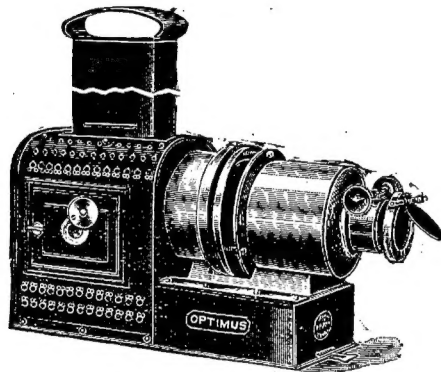
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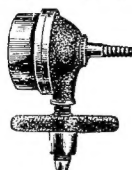
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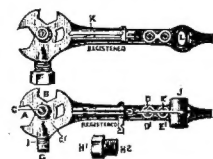
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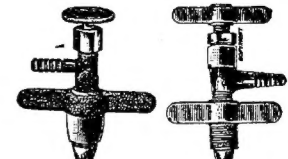
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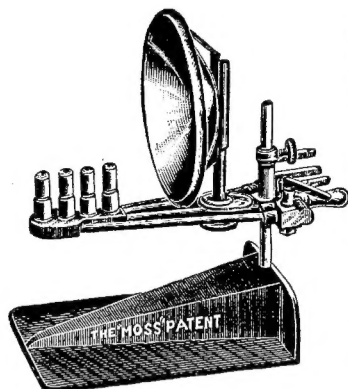


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silken snares. Their architectural and engineering skill was of a high order. They were equipped with poison glands, and armed with formidable piercing weapons, but English spiders were utterly unable to injure man, though the punctures of some tropical species were as dangerous as the sting of a large scorpion. The escape of young geometer spiders was shown, and webs spun by them. Their first attempts showed that their geometry was very bad; but they soon improved, and on the sixth day they produced webs perfect in design, though smaller than those made by adults. Gossamer, as to the origin of which there had been so much discussion, consisted of silken threads used by the young of certain species of spiders in wafting themselves from place to place; these when detached floated awhile in the air, and then fell to the ground. Some forms of snares were then shown, notably one which served also as a gin, the spider releasing a line which caused the elastic network to rebound and imprison the fly. Mr. J. W. Garbutt was in charge of the lantern and mechanical arrangements of the slides.

Sir Horace Tozer, Agent-General for Queensland, delivered a lecture on the resources and interests of Queensland at Worcester on January 24th. The lectures are illustrated by views of the State which the lecturer represents, and will, we understand, lecture to any society by request.

Kingston Photographic Society.—At a meeting of this society held in the Masonic Hall, on Monday, January 12th, when a good number of the society met to hear Mr. Cembrano, F.R.P.S., lecture on the "Art of Lantern Slide Making." A practical demonstration by the gelatine process with the pyro developer occupied the first part of the evening, and an excellent show of lantern slides from negatives taken by hand camera in the possession of Mr. Cembrano were thrown on the screen. Mr. Cembrano said one of the most important points in lantern slide making was of course to have a good negative. One kind of negative that should be avoided was the hard one. There were various processes in making slides, but the one the lecturer generally adopted was the gelatine process. It was especially suited to amateurs, as it was cheap, easy and durable. The lecturer then proceeded to make slides, giving various exposures to a gas flame, saying that gas was perhaps better than magnesium, which was not so steady. Time was an important factor in the development of the slides, and he advised enthusiasts to work with a clock at hand that had a large "second face," and to keep record of all the times and

chemicals which had been in use. They would find this of great value, and it would tend to save the spoilation of many plates. The lecturer said he generally used the pyro developer, which would keep and produce faithful colouring. The best tone to print a lantern slide was a warm brown tint. He also advised slide makers to mark the slides so as to define the right way up, else if they did not do so, they would become the despair of the lanternist. Mr. Cembrano concluded his remarks by saying: When you have made a nice slide it is a pity to spoil it by a bad mount, and more so to show it through a bad lantern.

Huddersfield Literary Society.—On the 16th January Mr. B. H. Halstead gave a lecture entitled "My Trip up the Mediterranean," which was well illustrated by upwards of seventy views shown by the oxy-hydrogen lantern. The lecturer was accompanied on the trip by his brother, the Rev. J. H. Halstead, B.A., of Stockport, and explained that the lantern views had been made mainly from photographs taken with a Kodak camera. The life and amusements on board ship were described, and an interesting account given of each calling place, from Gibraltar to Algiers, Malta and Alexandria.

A Walk to Venice.—The Rev. A. N. Cooper, vicar of Filey, delivered a lecture in the Temperance Hall, Driffield, on January 20th, detailing his recent walk to Venice. The lecture was illustrated by limelight views.

Sheffield Literary Society.—Mr. R. W. Chase, of Birmingham, on the 19th January, delighted an audience with an illustrated account of "The Rambles of an Ornithologist." After dealing generally with the distribution of birds and their marked characteristics, the lecturer gave some remarkable examples of the manner in which Nature protected her offspring. For example, the eggs are laid so that the heat shall be evenly distributed during the process of hatching. Then there is the assimilation of colour according to the varied environment. It is difficult to perceive the eggs that are laid in the sand by the seashore by the birds that inhabit the coast, owing to their corresponding with the colour of the sand. Some are laid among stones, the eggs closely corresponding; others on the dizzy heights of a precipice, and only the practised eye can distinguish the feathered creature from the scarp'd cliff. In one instance, where a certain species build their nests in the reeds of the marshes, a ridge is placed round the edge of the nest to prevent the eggs or the young from

being rudely turned out of their cosy home when the action of the wind bends the reeds to a dangerous angle. A description of a tour round the British Isles made by Mr. Chase in the pursuit of a favourite hobby, showing the naturalist suspended between sea and sky in order to obtain photographs of bird life at home, proved very interesting. In giving a few facts as to species becoming extinct, the lecturer said that there were only three or four pairs of kites remaining in the British Isles. The cornrake, too, was becoming rare owing, no doubt, to the mowing machine, so that probably we should soon lose its peculiar sound on a Summer's evening.

The League of Mercy.—A largely attended meeting, held under the auspices of the League took place at the Castle Assembly Rooms, Richmond, on Thursday, January 9th. The chair was taken by the Mayor (Councillor A. Chancellor), one of the vice-presidents of the Kingston district. The principal speaker of the evening was Sir Henry Burdett, K.C.B., and his speech on "Life in the Hospitals" was illustrated by limelight views.

Liverpool Astronomical Society.—Miss Bacon, the well-known astronomer and balloonist, lectured before the Society on January 15th, taking as her subject "My three eclipse expeditions: Norway, India, and America." Miss Bacon at the outset expressed her appreciation of the distinction of lecturing before a society which was not only the precursor but the originator of the British Astronomical Association, a larger but not more eminent body of astronomers. She described in some detail her experiences during the three eclipse expeditions in graphic and well-chosen language. The results of the Norway expedition in 1896 were somewhat disappointing, owing to a cloudy sky, but the effects of the eclipse were described as weird and impressive. Greater success attended the expeditions to India and America, which were also described clearly and in most interesting fashion. The lecture was illustrated by numerous limelight views from photographs, most of them taken by the lecturer herself.

Bradford Philosophical Society reassembled at the Church Institute on the 15th January to hear the first of a series of four lectures on "Greek Art and Thought," by Mr. John ff. Baker-Penoyre, M.A., of the British School of Archaeology, Athens, who, with the aid of some excellent lantern pictures, explained in detail the main features and principles of Doric and Ionic

architecture, with illustrations from temples, theatres, and racecourses.

"Garden Cities" was the title of a lecture delivered Jan. 6th, at the Baptist Chapel, High Road, Willesden Green, by Mr. F. W. Flear, a member of the Council of the Garden City Association, in connection with the Kilburn, Brondesbury, and Willesden Green Women's Liberal Association. Lime light views were given of Bournville and Port Sunlight.

"Hobbies" say that a plan recently employed in France for giving a stereoscopic effect to magic-lantern pictures thrown upon a screen is to furnish each spectator with a pair of prisms, set in spectacle frames, through which two pictures, side by side on the screen, are viewed. The angles of the prisms are varied for widely different distances from the screen, but owing to the natural power of accommodation of the eye, the same angle serves at distances not widely variant.

Magic Lanterns for Schools.—The headmaster of Alma Road Schools, Enfield, asked the Board to take out an annual subscription of £2 2s. for the supply of 1,200 magic lantern slides for the use of classes in the schools. Granted.

Will other headmasters do likewise?—(Ed.)

Messrs. Newton & Co. recently issued a supplementary list of lantern slides, containing particulars of many slides of scientific interest. Among the subjects of slides suitable for science lectures or lessons are British reptiles and other animals, photographed from life by Mr. D. English; butterflies and moths; trees and plants; photographs of ripples on mercury and water, by Dr. J. H. Vincent; sound waves, by Prof. R. W. Wood; and photomicrographs by Dr. Spitta to illustrate the morphology of the malarial parasite.

Mr. W. Herbert-Jones, F.R.G.S. lectured at Faversham Institute recently on "Round the Empire with the Heir apparent; The Royal Tour of the Prince and Princess of Wales." Mr. Herbert-Jones, who is a most eloquent lecturer, in addition to giving a graphic description of the innumerable ceremonies in which the Prince took part, gave a mass of interesting information about the different countries, and ample evidence of the loyalty of his Majesty's subjects throughout the empire and their confidence in the British rule. The lecture was illustrated by nearly 200 excellent pictures.

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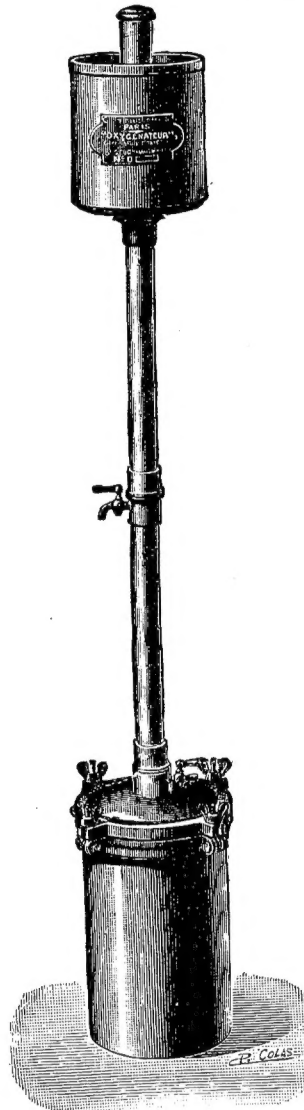
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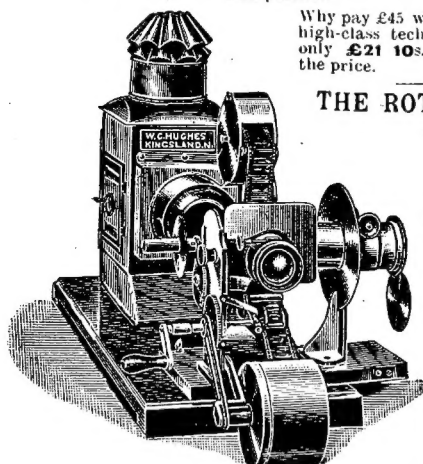
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The Luminous Cascade was a special exhibit at the Midland Institute, Birmingham, on the occasion of the Annual Conversazione, and was in charge of Messrs. A. B. Coleman and W. J. S. Green. Most lanternists will recognise this one of the old Polytechnic illusions, an experiment demonstrating "Internal Reflection." A beam of light is passed through a tank of water and focussed on to the back of the outlet pipe; a luminous stream issues from the jet or nozzle, carrying the light down with it in its curved course, the light being reflected from side to side of the stream.

Dewing of Slides in the Lantern.

By T. PERKINS.

I HAVE recently had a somewhat annoying experience, which I had never met with before, and which I have never seen mentioned in any publication dealing with lantern slides. I had prepared a set of seventy slides to illustrate a lecture on Amiens, and several months ago passed them through an oil lantern to test them, and found them satisfactory, they were then put by in the cardboard boxes in which the plates had been bought, until they were required for a public Lecture, when they were taken out, wiped and arranged in one of the ordinary wooden boxes specially made for carrying slides away from home; when, during the lecture, they were projected on the screen I noticed that some few of them, but not all, were obscured by dew, I attributed this to the usual cause—a cold slide introduced into the warm moist atmosphere within the lantern, for the lecture was given on a dull foggy day, I waited for the usual clearing of the slide as the glass grew warm, but instead of this the mist grew more and more pronounced, and examination of the slides showed that the dewing was between the glasses, not on the outside, and so could not be wiped off; nothing could be done at the time, but to apologise to the audience and throw the blame (unjustly as I now believe) upon the moist state of the air in the lecture room. After the lecture was over I proceeded to examine the slides that had been thus dewed, in cool air they were bright and clear, but when held to the fire dew formed on the outside, which was quickly dissipated, and also between the glasses which could not be got rid of although the glasses were made so hot that it was painful to touch them. Evidently there was some moisture between the glasses which the heat turned into steam, and which the

binding strip kept shut in between the glasses. I scraped away about half an inch of the binding along the bottom slide of the picture, that which should be uppermost when the slide was inserted in the lantern, and again held the slide to the fire keeping the edge from which the binding had been removed uppermost, the steam could now escape, and the slide soon became clear.

The manner in which the moisture got confined between the glasses is not very easy to determine. None of the slides were bound until the films had become dry from the washing water, in some instances masks had been made by sticking down on the film strips of the binders, moistening the gum to make them adhere to the surface of the films; had the dewing been confined to the slides so masked, the conclusion would have been that some of this moisture was imprisoned between the glasses, but slides in which ordinary ready cut commercial masks were used, suffered in the same way. It may have been that the masks had themselves absorbed some moisture from damp air, or that the air itself shut in between the glasses contained some water vapour, or possibly the gelatine films, though to all appearance dry, had absorbed some moisture. It is hardly probable that moisture could find its way from the atmosphere through the binding slips after they had been firmly stuck on, though it is possible that the moisture, which must be applied to the gum on them to make them stick, may have partly evaporated into the space between the slide and the cover glass.

Whether the dewing was caused by any one of the causes, or to several of them combined, I cannot say, but to reduce the risk to a minimum it would be well when binding slides to warm the transparencies, cover glass, and masks by a fire, or over a lamp, and if masks are formed by pieces of binding strips to carefully dry them when stuck on before proceeding any further, and in all cases to bind three sides only at first, and not finish the fourth side until the partially bound side has again been thoroughly heated.

Phrenology and Occupations: The Lanternist.

By C. BURTON, F.B.P.S., &c.

THERE is a very general and correct idea that whatever good there may be in Phrenology, it is useful for knowing fitness for occupation, and that parents ought to use it in choosing a position for their children;

although they may not altogether like applying it to themselves. Adult conceit may incline to the very much mistaken idea, that the scientific measuring of people of middle and adult age does not or should not apply; yet Phrenology, like all science, is no respecter of persons and tells all, both pleasant and unpleasant facts about their limitations in character and talents. It can just as well pick out an old fool as a young one; and a man or woman who is inclined to goodness or badness of life; or it can answer questions about who would or who would not make a good lanternist, or who would be an awkward fumbler at the job.

The greatest trouble in life is people being in positions for which they are not adapted; like round pegs in square holes, as the saying is; and in people attempting, or being made to attempt to do what to them is the impossible.

A lady told me lately that her mother had spent £200 on her musical education, with the hope of getting her to play the piano; but without the least success. I looked at her, and said to myself, "and no wonder, almost anyone with common sense could see that that would be the case, even without a knowledge of Phrenology," although that will settle all doubts. In another case recently, a youngman, a son of a well-to-do father, told me that his father had paid £300 to apprentice him to the electrical engineering, but that he did not like it, and should get away from it as soon as he could. It would be easy to fill all the space of this journal with cases like these.

When the Trade Guilds were dominant in this country personal limitations in work was much more the rule than it is now; changes in circumstances have been moving to that of demanding general fitness for everything more than that of doing only one or two things; though it is no good any one trying to become master of all trades, because there is a general law that development in one direction, or in one set of faculties, brings about retrogression in others, through their non-use. Mental athletes and physical athletes rarely go together; we must of necessity develop in sections, and become natural specialists, or perhaps we may say onesided. Each human brain or body appears to contain, or be the instrument for the time being of so much limited power, which, if used one way, cannot be equally used in another and different way.

My friend, Mr. Severn, has for a long time been writing in the *Popular Phrenologist*, descriptions of people suited to different occupations, (though, through modesty I expect, he has not yet shown what a Phrenologist ought to be). But

the men and women he portrays are about perfect human beings, which of course all ought to be; still people with such qualifications, of necessity are adapted for most departments of work, and not the one only being dealt with; which makes me sorry at the unsuitability of the great majority for anything; yet I am half inclined to admit that it is true, for most people are a nuisance when they are expected to do anything. The ladies? No, I won't, I like them too well! Mr. Severn reminds me of Mr. Harry Duffell's lecture on "Theosophy for all" I heard lately, in which the description of who the "All" were, was shown to be those who would be less than one in a thousand.

Society is full of mediocre and queer conditioned brains, people who can't help it, you know, that is they must do things a bit wrong. Knowledge and experience says, the poor duffers we have always with us. The few must carry the burdens of the many, and that it is no use expecting "A silk purse from a sow's ear."

Gradations of mental capacity and power may be compared to an inverted cone, with lines around marking it into degrees, which can be taken to represent different classes of people; each of the middle degrees it will be observed, is greater than the one below and less than the one above, and in accordance with the law, that "the lesser cannot comprehend the greater, &c., so therefore, each one would be able to fill their own position, and also do all that belonged to those below them, but not do what was proper to those above them.

A man may have intellect enough for an occupation, but fitness will also depend upon whether there are any interfering conditions in other parts of the nature, such as health, which is always paramount. Character and availability depends more upon balance than anything else.

And now to apply the teaching to the case of the lantern operator, we shall find that a good lanternist will be one who has just that amount of talent and so balanced as to give quickness in understanding what is wanted, and aptness to do it.

Greatness of special talent, power of originality, and strong natures as a rule would not do for lantern operators.

While writing, at this point I am interrupted by a young lady being brought in to my office for an examination, whom I find will do very well for an illustration. She would make a very good lantern operator, because she has intelligence enough, and so balanced as to be interested in the rational of things, and to be able to easily understand the mechanism of all connected with the lantern. She would know

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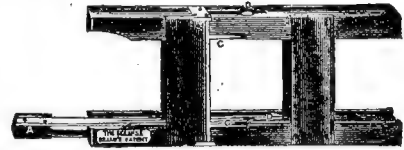
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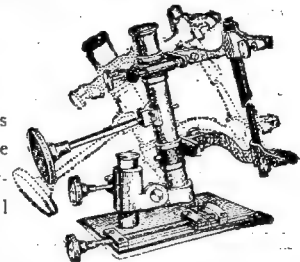
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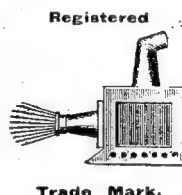
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how to regulate the light, the focus, and to manipulate the slides, and then to neatly pack up after it was all over. Now imagine, if you can, Thomas Carlyle, the great philosopher being entrusted to operate a lantern, and the consequences. I should fear an explosion, and that the whole show would be damaged.

How many members of the House of Lords would make good lanternists, particularly among the good old Tories, or even in the House of Commons? All old fashioned, limited and very conservative kind of people should not be trusted with an optical lantern. The magic lantern is modern, and can only be properly worked by people with modern-like minds; so that youthful-like people, who show some disposition to playfulness, no matter what their age may be, are the ones best adapted for lantern operators. If I were asked to catalogue those who would not do for lanternists, I should say,—all idiots, lunatics, eccentrics, conceited people, good natural poets, most geniuses, prizefighters, and vulgar people, most of those at the top and bottom of society; and those at the two ends of life, the very young and very old.

Now if you will look at the portrait of the present editor of this journal, and can read his face, you will see the youthful playfulness I have mentioned; and his reputation as an excellent lanternist offers confirmation of the teaching here set forth.

If I were engaged to give a series of lectures, and wanted a lanternist, and was free to select or reject whom I would, I should begin by not objecting to the King, providing he would let me regulate his diet; then Lord Roberts, Baden Powell, General French, Louis Botha, Cecil J. Rhodes, Burnham the Scout, Mark Twain, most of Society-Entertainers, and a number of ladies, whose names I shall not tell. But I would not have the Pope, the Shah, Archbishop Temple, Hugh Price Hughes, Ruskin, Tennyson, Bismarck, Sir Henry Irving, Richard Cadbury, Oom Paul Kruger, or Munkacsy, the artist.

Adaptation to work requires something more than intellect; something more than faculties to know, to understand, and to apply. A good lanternist could be made a bad one through the state of his health, his sentiments, emotions and feelings. There is such a state as being absentminded, as I was once, perhaps more than once, when I engaged to blow a church organ, and became so interested in the music that I left off blowing, and went to look at the organist, when all of a sudden the thing stopped, and I had to hurry back to get up the wind again. Secret causes such as love will often cause absent-mindedness that may lead to accidents; against

which I offer no remedy. Large Self-Esteem tends to spoil a good operator; because it disposes the person to act from and for themselves, making the audience wait their pleasure, and expecting them to be highly pleased with what and how they do. I know a gentleman who is built that way, and have watched his self-approving smile. Mr. A. Saunders, who has small self-esteem does differently, and I have watched him when he is at work with the lantern; how quick he has been, and how the will of the audience has governed his actions; if he has a fault, it is that he is a little too quick; he does not stop to admire himself, although his constitution does contain a little vanity.

There is a very safe, good and quick method of judging suitability for lantern work, other than by Phrenology, and that is by the fingers:—

Those with very long fingers; and big nails, will not do; nor when the fingers are crooked, or the nails very wide across the ends. Conic shaped nails, with moderate sized fingers, and evenly developed flanges, are the best.

Limelight Lectures on Living Authors.

By MAURICE MARX.

SEVERAL years ago, the writer had an opportunity of inspecting the literary pictures of the year, exhibited at Burlington House, London. The subjects ranged from the classical period of Allegorical Portraiture like Penelope and the Suitors (Odyssey) down to Lorenzo and Isabella (Keats) and even to Tennyson's Lady of Shalott; also a truly pathetic poem on canvas of that well-known song "Won't you buy my pretty flowers?"

The gulf which separates subject from subject is a wide one, and still amongst the visitors to the Gallery that day, one is inclined to believe there would be hundreds who, aided by the artistic conception of the pictures, would recall pleasant half hours spent with the authors indicated.

And musing on these things, I suddenly remembered that a famous librarian some days previously had, in answer to a query, given it as his opinion, that taken library for library, throughout the kingdom, the demand for fiction was sixty-five and seventy per cent. in advance of all other forms of literature. The conversation drifted into various channels, until we came to a kind of parting of the ways. On his part,

the librarian contended that the works of authors of the pre and early Victorian Era were—all circumstances being equal—the purveyors of more real pleasure and instruction, holding the attention of the reader if not in such a vice-like grip, yet with a more steady grasp than the modern writers, whose chief corner-stone seemed to be real excitement, even in antagonism and disdain, than to scatter a free and easy air of natural possibilities throughout their pages. With which opinion I begged leave to disagree. For my own part, I contended that the modern author was entirely the outcome of the modern public taste, who, so to speak had created him to reflect in his pages that which they can easily understand as an intuition, which is one degree removed from human instinct, but can not give expression to. And, therefore, the author who works on those lines is practically sure of a share of popularity. I further suggested my intended visit to inspect the Literary Pictures of the year at Burlington House, which my friend had already visited, adding that, to fully bear out his contention, I should not find a single picture representing a scene from the works of a modern author represented, and he was perfectly correct.

The advance of education, the marvellous progress and facilities for printing, have placed in the hands of the multitude thousands of works of living authors, such as would have been impossible fifty years ago. I cannot but think that, taken on an average, quite as many readers have lived and felt with the created beings of the living authors as those who in the early forties devoured Balzac, Scott, and Dumas. Here lies the crux of the whole matter. Why should not the most famous scenes in the works of say Dr. Conan Doyle, for instance, find a place in the repertoire of the up-to-day lanternist? The public is acquainted with the living author, has an interest in his doings and sayings, apart from his work,—have passed many happy hours in the world and characters he has created for them,—they would, I feel sure only be too pleased to rekindle his acquaintance, for the brief space of an hour by listening to an illustrated lecture. Briefly, the *modus operandi* I would suggest is this:—The slide maker should communicate with the publishers stating his object, asking their permission to make use of certain scenes as shown in an illustrated edition of an author's work. Having obtained permission, (which I have no reason to believe would be denied), the lantern lecturer, who I will presume is a photographer, would proceed somewhat as follows, varying his programme according to circumstances. By circumstances I mean:—should he happen to be

travelling in that part of England whereof an author's particular work treats, he will naturally delight his audience by giving this particular work preference. Or again, he will as far as possible suit the works of an author to the class of people amongst whom he is lecturing. A miner's story for a mining district, a hunting story for a hunting district, a Henty story for boys, or a society story if he should be engaged to lecture at a select club or garden party, and so forth.

I referred to Dr. Conan Doyle. I am supposing the lecturer has permission, in fact, *carte blanche* from the novelist's publishers, or if need be from the novelist himself. He might commence his lecture by giving a brief but concise outline of the author's life, adding by the way little incidents or interesting anecdotes connected therewith.

For instance, Dr. Doyle tells us in his reminiscences:—"The first noteworthy event in my life was a literary achievement at the age of six, a story of adventure, terrible adventure, written in a big, bold hand on foolscap paper, four words on a line accompanied by pen and ink illustrations. There was a man in it and there was a tiger. I forget which was the hero, but it did not matter much, for they became blended into one about the time the tiger met the man. I was a realist in the age of the Romantics. I described at some length both pictorially and verbally the untimely end of the wayfarer. But when the tiger had absorbed him, I found myself slightly embarrassed as to how the story was to go on. It is very easy to get people into scrapes but very hard to get them out again. I have often had cause to repeat that precocious aphorism of my childhood. On this occasion the situation was beyond me, and my book like my man was engulfed in my tiger."

Little homelike incidents of this description never fail to interest an audience, and has the further advantage of putting them in a good humour.

The first object projected on the screen should be a portrait of the author under discussion, his house or any thing connected with his everyday life. Then, the lecturer would do well to plunge right into his subject, commencing with scenes from his earlier productions. "Micah Clarke," for instance. Here is the scene of Monmouth the King.

"Round the cross were grouped a score of maidens clad in white muslin dresses with blue scarves round their waists. As the King approached, these little maids with much pretty nervousness advanced to meet him, handing a dainty gold-clasped Bible. Monmouth handed

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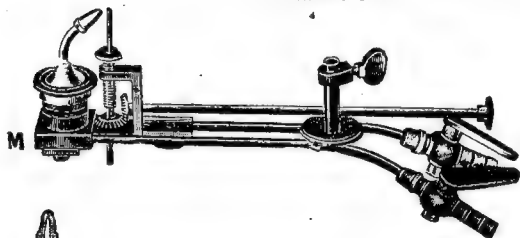
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gases then pass through holes in the edge of the plate, and so to the burner. The requisite pressure of oxygen is spring to deliver at about 15 lbs. pressure.

The superiority of this Jet over all others remains fully established. It will yield **THE FULL 1,800 TO 2,000 CANDLE-POWER** (so-called) of the ordinary mixed jet when taking its supply of coal gas direct from the town's pipe, or even from a bag *without any pressure at all*. If a town's supply is not available, it will work just as well with coal gas from a cylinder. We cannot see why ordinary mixed jets should be purchased which cannot offer these alternatives. As for blow-through jets, ejector or otherwise, we do not know why they should be used at all, when with the same economy and convenience of working, the Injector Jet will give two or three times the light. By re-moving the Injector nipple the jet becomes an ordinary mixed jet. This can be done whenever it is desired to work with oxygen at low pressure, and coal gas from a cylinder.

The working of the Jet is simpler than that of an ordinary jet. When the H tap is once adjusted, it does not need to be touched again when using towns gas. The turning off or on of the oxygen supply regulates automatically the supply of coal gas. This is a great convenience in actual use.

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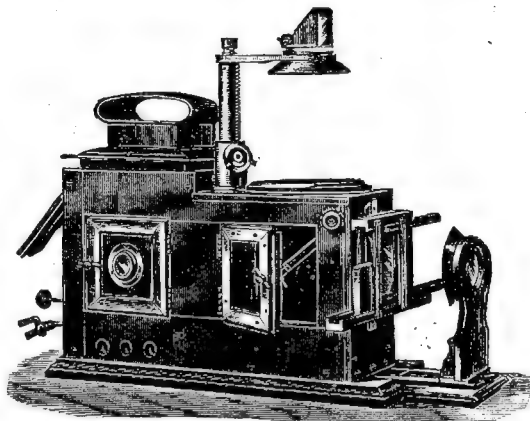
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the flag to one of his captains, and raising the book above his head exclaiming that he had come there to proclaim the truths contained within it, at which the cheerings and acclamations broke forth with redoubled vigour."

The engraving shows an old fashioned four-corner church tower in the distance. A portion of sixteenth century triangular, plaster, wooden-beamed, red-tiled houses. Some half-dozen yeomen with their pikes and javelins; the King, seated on a superb black charger, has just handed the flag to the standard bearer; immediately behind him, the village worthies with bowed heads are standing by the side of the steed. The King, half seated, half standing in the stirrups is holding in his right hand the gold bound Bible on high, whilst in his left rest the reins. His head is covered with the three-cornered hat of the period, his hair falling in close black ringlets about his neck, and across the collar of his tunic, which seems to be of a velvet material, richly embroidered with gold braid. His leather hose stretch up beyond the knees, and enormous spurs on the heels complete the picture.

The book is published by Messrs. Longman, Green & Co., with an engraving of "Monmouth the King." One can imagine that the picture would be a very fine one if the slide was appropriately coloured.

Another pen picture taken from the "White Company":—

"Hordle John stood waiting in the centre with a sullen menacing eye, and his red hair in a bristle, while the archer passed lightly and swiftly to the right and left with crooked knee and hands advanced. Then with a sudden dash so swift and fierce that the eye could scarce follow it, he flew in upon his man and locked his left leg round him. It was a grip that between men of equal strength would mean a fall; but Hordle John tore him off from him as he might a rat and hurled him across the room so that his head cracked up against the wooden wall."

The picture shows an apartment in an ancient hostelry. Heavy oaken beams and an enormous fireplace, Dutch Tiled and high. Four or five men are seated on a wooden form at what appears a rough table. In front of them are tankards of ale, and the good landlady stands leisurely behind holding on a tray another tankard. The scene depicts the moment when Hordle John has just unloosened and smashed his man against the oak panelling at the further end of the apartment; the vanquished man's eyes are gorging from their sockets, his arms helplessly and aimlessly outstretched, and his feet slipping from under him; whilst Hordle John's hands

and legs are bent as strained pieces of iron. One can easily perceive that he has spent all his strength in claiming the victory over his rival. The figures around the table, together with the landlady at the back, have concentrated their attention at the figure of the man at the further end of the room.

Then again we have some capital illustrations in the ever green Sherlock Holmes volumes:—

"Holmes sprang frantically across the room and pushed at the door. It was fastened on the inner side.—Following his example, we threw ourselves upon it with all our might. One hinge smashed, and then the other, and down came the door with a crash! Rushing over it, we found ourselves in the inner room."

The torn down door lies across the floor. Looking at the engraving, one can almost imagine hearing the terrific noise the door must have made when falling. Freed from its hinges, Sherlock Holmes is just bounding across, his right foot on the door, his left just lifted from the floor of the room where the door belonged; his neck outstretched and fiery keen eyes and clear-cut features piercing the darkness toward the room in front, followed by three figures in the background.

(To be continued).

Thro' our Lantern.

Limes.—These commodities,—without which the Lanternist is nonplussed—are again booming. We must confess to a prejudice in favour of one special make, and which for the past eighteen years have never failed us, they have always been "Semper idem." Still, we do not allow this prejudice to stand in the way, and when we find a good thing we like to let others know. Messrs. Green & Co. sent us some samples to test and this we have fully done with the following results.

With a "Wrench" Jet the *Cinematograph Limes* were fine, they shewed an even pitting and the light was excellent. Same results with their one-inch diameter.

Gwyer, 35/- jet. *Cinematograph*, splendid, inch, fair, they split if above ordinary pressure.

Gwyer, special jet. *Cinematograph* stood test up to about 800 to 1,000 c.p., above this they split, especially if the Lime was not well warmed before turning on the oxygen.

Brown's jet. All the limes stood well and took their pitting kindly, until the jets roared and then they split. From these tests we can recommend them as a good line.

Our Book Shelf.

We have received a copy of the 2nd volume of "Traité Général Des Projections," by Eugène Teutat, Docteur ès Sciences, Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur, etc. The volume treats principally of Scientific Microscopic Projection apparatus, Animated Projection. Various illuminants and experiments. We would like to see an English translation, as such it would be a book very much sought after.

The price is not mentioned, but volume I was 7 fr. 50. So we presume vol. 2 is the same price.

Mr. Wm. Tylar, of Aston, sends a detailed catalogue of Lantern apparatus fully up-to-date, giving full details and prices to suit all pockets.

We also note another issue of the well-known book, "Photography in a Nutshell" which has now reached its 83rd.

Correspondence.

DEAR SIR,

"We have noticed the correspondence and articles with reference to the recent accident, where Mr. Oswald Thackeray met his death through experimenting with acetylene. We wrote to the *Daily Gazette* an article which was published in their issue of December 22nd, 1902, pointing out that acetylene gas is produced in generators by two methods, viz., (a) By applying water to carbide. (b) By dropping carbide into an excess of water.

In the first the point to observe in the purchase of a generator is, whether the gas holder, which regulates the cut-off of the water, could by any means be held down so that the water would continue to run on to the carbide, or would any other defect or accident to the tap or valve, regulating the supply of water be likely to bring about the same results, if so, then an excess of gas would be generated, and should a light be near at the time—danger.

In the second method, which is the one most highly recommended by all the highest authorities (because the gas is cleansed and cooled as it rises through the water), in this type, when valves are used to regulate the flow of carbide to the water; in the generating chamber, by the rise and fall of the gas holder, care should be taken to notice whether or not an accidental holding down of the gas holder or sticking of the valve would not allow the carbide to keep running into the water, with exactly the same result.

These remarks, of course, apply only to the automatic types of generators, which, owing to the small space they take up, and cheapness, will no doubt find most favour with the public. So far as I can see there is only one of the latter type made in which it is impossible to get an overcharge of gas, as the carbide is dropped into the water in specific charges, in such a way that it is impossible to get more than one charge deposited until the gas from the preceding charge has been exhausted. I refer to one made for lantern use, sold by a London firm, but the principle can no doubt be applied to large generators also. I think that this

should be made known to the public as widely as possible, as if they insist upon getting safe generators, the manufacturers will have to supply them.

GREEN & CO.,

Lime-light Operators.

57, High Street, Aston,
Birmingham.

DEAR SIR,

"Reading in your Journal of the death of Herbert Oswald Thackeray, of which I am very sorry to hear, I beg to say that I constructed an apparatus of the same kind, the design of which you will find in the *Model and Electrical Engineer*, and have used it ever since to try cinematograph films at my place of business, and must say that it acts splendidly showing 2 ft. pictures. The design is something of this kind, an inner cylinder holding carbide, with four holes punched about half-way up, and covered with lint so that the water shall just dribble on to the carbide, a bell which must be locked in position, and an outer cylinder to hold the water, and I find it perfectly automatic. Any time you are my way I shall be pleased to show it to you.

I remain, yours faithfully,

J. H. BLISSETT.

14, Tividale Road, Tipton,
Staffordshire,

January 14th, 1903.

Answers to Correspondence.

W.J.S.—We duly received the Regulators, and must say they are in a bad condition, the rubber has perished as we suggested. At your request we sent them to the makers, and although we have since written two letters and two postcards, we can get no reply, so must presume they are useless.

Beards most decidedly.

Yes. We have an article on the life, etc., of various regulators, which we hope to publish shortly.

CONDENSOR.—A is the correct form. B would distort the picture.

ACETYLENE.—1. No! 2. We would not care to experiment with such an apparatus. 3. Beards. 4. Gwyers. 5. Tylars. 6. Yes, we are fully aware that the slides are not what they should be, but people here have got the impression that snow is on the ground at 'Xmas and so the shepherds must be lying on snow round a fire. 7. Write the makers and complain. 8. See advertising columns. 9. Warwick Trading Co., Warwick Court, High Holborn, London, W.C.

- Patent Intelligence. -

Compiled expressly for this Journal by Messrs. W. P. Thompson & Co., Chartered Patent Agents, 322, High Holborn, London, W.C., and at Liverpool, to whom all enquiries should be addressed.

Magic Lantern Applications.

No.

RECENT PATENT INTELLIGENCE.

1093. Improvements relating to devices for synchronously operating phonographs and cinematographs. H. H. Lake (La Société L. Gaumont et Compagnie). 15th January, 1903.

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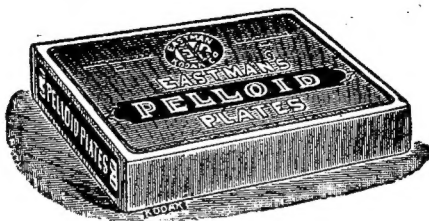
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"Eileen Allannah."
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"Killarney."
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